

# **SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET**

## **Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services**

*This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Middlesex and Worcester Senatorial District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2002.*

### **Residents of Middlesex and Worcester Senatorial District**

#### **Characteristics of Admissions**

In FY 2002, there were 124,539 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; 2.2% (2,771) of these admissions reside in the Middlesex and Worcester Senatorial District. 2.6% (73) of admissions from the Middlesex and Worcester Senatorial District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2002, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from Middlesex and Worcester Senatorial District reported the following characteristics:

- 76% were male and 24% were female.
- 62% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 76% were white non-Latino, 5% were black non-Latino, 13% were Latino, and 5% were other racial categories.
- 65% were never married, 13% were married, and 22% reported not to be married now.
- 30% had less than high school education, 47% completed high school, and 23% had more than high school education.
- 29% were employed.
- 34% were homeless.
- 24% had prior mental health treatment.

#### **Primary Substance of Use**

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Middlesex and Worcester Senatorial District.

<b>Table 1</b>					
<b>Primary Drug by District and State FY 2002</b>					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	45%	40%	6%	3%	3%
State	45%	37%	6%	4%	3%

#### **Substances Used in Past Year**

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug users (IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

<b>Table 2</b> <b>Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2002</b>							
<b>Middlesex and Worcester Senatorial District</b>							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
<b>FY '95</b>	1,274	1,119	366	279	191	179	128
<b>FY '96</b>	1,399	1,186	483	351	262	316	235
<b>FY '97</b>	1,543	1,274	502	380	255	384	298
<b>FY '98</b>	1,460	1,221	466	264	141	258	181
<b>FY '99</b>	1,557	1,302	485	318	182	334	267
<b>FY '00</b>	1,752	1,411	564	405	236	558	403
<b>FY '01</b>	1,820	1,394	548	400	239	604	452
<b>FY '02</b>	2,771	1,916	643	611	378	1,258	947

### **Heroin and Injection Drug Use**

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Middlesex and Worcester Senatorial District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving the increases in HIV.

